

records located, a broker may use, in lieu of original documents, methods of reproduction other than microfilm, including microfiche, for the reproduction of records, provided the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section are met. While original powers of attorney must be retained, copies also may be retained.

(e) *Notification*—(1) *Applicability*. The procedure to maintain financial records on a centralized system basis is generally available to brokers who have been granted permits to do business in more than one district.

(2) *Form and content*. If centralized storage is desired by the broker, he must submit a written notice addressed to the Office of Field Operations, Headquarters. The written notice shall include:

(i) The address at which the broker intends to maintain the centralized accounting records. This location must be within a district where the broker has been granted a permit;

(ii) A detailed statement describing all the records of financial transactions to be maintained at the centralized location, the methodology of record maintenance, a description of any automated data processing to be applied, and a list of all the broker's customs business activity locations; and

(iii) An agreement that there will be no change in the records, the manner of recordkeeping, or the location at which they will be maintained, unless Customs is first notified.

(f) *Reproduction of centralized accounting records*. The Office of Field Operations, Headquarters, is responsible for approving requests for the reproduction of centralized financial records provided under paragraphs (b) and (d) of this section.

[T.D. 70-134, 35 FR 9254, June 13, 1970, as amended by T.D. 72-299, 37 FR 23100, Oct. 28, 1972; T.D. 78-138, 43 FR 21880, May 22, 1978; T.D. 86-161, 51 FR 30342, Aug. 26, 1986; T.D. 90-92, 55 FR 49884, Dec. 3, 1990; T.D. 95-77, 60 FR 50019, Sept. 27, 1995]

**§ 111.24 Records confidential.**

The records referred to in this part and pertaining to the business of the clients serviced by the broker shall be considered confidential, and the broker shall not disclose their contents or any

information connected therewith to any persons other than such clients and the Field Director, Regulatory Audit, the special agent in charge, or other duly accredited agents of the United States except on subpoena by a court of competent jurisdiction.

[T.D. 78-138, 43 FR 21880, May 22, 1978, as amended by T.D. 86-161, 51 FR 30342, Aug. 26, 1986]

**§ 111.25 Records shall be available.**

During the period of retention, the broker shall maintain his records in such manner that they may readily be examined, and they shall be made available for inspection, copying, reproduction or other official use by Customs regulatory auditors or special agents in accordance with the provisions of §§ 162.1a through 162.1i within the period of retention or within any longer period of time during which they remain in the possession of the broker.

[T.D. 78-138, 43 FR 21880, May 22, 1978, as amended by T.D. 79-159, 44 FR 31968, June 4, 1979; T.D. 86-161, 51 FR 30342, Aug. 26, 1986]

**§ 111.26 Interference with examination of records.**

Except in accordance with the provisions of §§ 162.1a through 162.1i, a broker shall not refuse access to, conceal, remove, or destroy the whole or any part of any record relating to his transactions as a broker which is being sought, or which the broker has reasonable grounds to believe may be sought, by the Treasury Department or any representative thereof, nor shall he otherwise interfere, or attempt to interfere, with any proper and lawful efforts to procure or reproduce information contained in such records.

[T.D. 70-134, 35 FR 9254, June 13, 1970, as amended by T.D. 79-159, 44 FR 31968, June 4, 1979; T.D. 86-161, 51 FR 30342, Aug. 26, 1986]

**§ 111.27 Audit or inspection of records**

The Field Director, Regulatory Audit, shall make such audit or inspection of the records required by this subpart to be kept and maintained by a broker as may be necessary to enable the port director and other proper officials of the Treasury Department to determine whether or not the broker is